

Summary of Legislation

Transportation & Motor Vehicles

During the 2022 legislative session, the General Assembly considered several measures related to transportation funding, motor vehicles, other modes of transportation, and traffic offenses.

Transportation Funding

Several bills during the 2022 session dealt with transportation funding. Senate Bill 22-176 made several transfers from the General Fund to multiple cash funds for development of the Front Range passenger rail corridor. addition, House Bill 22-1338 modified funding sources for the Hearings Division and the Division of Motor Vehicles within the Department of Revenue. Finally, Senate Bill 22-151 created a cash fund and transferred money for transportation projects that create safe passages for wildlife in order to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions.

Vehicle Registration, Licensing, and Fees

The General Assembly passed *House Bill 22-1388*, which made various changes to vehicle title and registration regulations, created a new license plate, and expanded a license plate reissuance requirement. *House Bill 22-1162* allowed registered vehicle owners in Colorado to use digital license plates.

House Bill 22-1004 created a one-time state transfer of \$3.9 million from the General Fund to the Licensing Services Cash Fund in

FY 2022-23 for the purpose of maintaining the current driver license fee.

Senate Bill 22-108 made changes to registration requirements for certain trucks weighing between 4,501 and 10,000 pounds.

House Bill 22-1351 delayed the implementation of certain fees on gasoline and other fuels, and temporarily reduced the amount of vehicle registration road safety surcharges.

House Bill 22-1254 required individuals who are late registering their vehicles to pay taxes and fees in arrears, imposed new late fees on temporary registrations, and required the Department of Revenue to make these changes revenue neutral by lowering certain registration fees.

House Bill 22-1042 created a program to provide financial assistance to teen parents for attending driving school and obtaining a driver license or permit.

Rideshare Vehicles and Rental Cars

Senate Bill 22-144 allowed rideshare companies to contract with schools and school districts to provide transportation services to students, subject to Public Utilities Commission and Department of Education regulation.

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House Bill 22-1089 required rideshare companies or their drivers to carry uninsured motorist coverage on their auto policies. In addition, House Bill 22-1114 authorized rideshare companies to provide non-medical transportation services to persons enrolled in certain Medicaid waiver programs beginning July 1, 2024.

House Bill 22-1253 required car rental companies to provide adaptive equipment, specified how communication concerning a reservation must take place and the timeframe under which the reservation must be fulfilled, and created a private right of action for violations.

Public Transit, School Buses, and Bicycles

Senate Bill 22-180 created a grant program in the Colorado Energy Office to provide funding to transit associations to provide free transit services for a minimum of 30 days during the ozone season, June 1 through August 31.

House Bill 22-1026 replaced an income tax deduction for expenses related to providing alternative transportation options for employees with a refundable tax credit for similar expenses available to employers.

Senate Bill 22-193 created a number of grant programs to fund voluntary efforts to reduce air pollution, including grants focused on increasing access to electric bicycles, electrifying school buses, and providing free RTD Eco Passes to state employees.

Traffic and Transportation-Related Crimes

House Bill 22-1028 changed state law to allow individuals on bicycles and other non-motorized vehicles to make safety stops at controlled intersections under certain circumstances.

Senate Bill 22-055 made changes to state law related to reinstatement of an interlock-restricted driver's license and required continuous alcohol monitoring for repeat and felony impaired driving offenders sentenced to probation.

House Bill 22-1321 required the Colorado Department of Transportation to contract and study devices that can assess cognitive and physical impairment of motorists to detect the presence of drugs during roadside sobriety investigations.

House Bill 22-1074 prohibited drivers from driving in the I-70 peak period shoulder lane when the lane is closed or if their vehicle violates lane restrictions and allows the enforcement of violations and assessment of civil penalties.

Senate Bill 22-179 allowed the Department of Public Health and Environment to seek civil penalties for tampering with a motor vehicle's emission control system (which includes catalytic converters). In addition, Senate Bill 22-009 required that businesses that purchase commodity metals keep a record of transactions involving catalytic converters and clarified that a catalytic converter is considered a major motor vehicle part for the purpose of establishing the crime of operating a chop shop.

House Bill 22-1314 expanded consumer towing protections through updates to state towing requirements, notification procedures, and lien processes.

Senate Bill 22-175, which was postponed indefinitely, would have created a traffic misdemeanor for using an electronic device while driving.